

Comic Devices Used in Media

Editorial cartoonists often use humor to make light of serious situations.

Caricature is defined as a picture, description, or imitation of a person in which certain striking characteristics are exaggerated in order to create a comic or grotesque effect.

- Personification is defined as the attribution of a personal nature or human characteristics to something nonhuman, or the representation of an abstract quality in human form.
- Parody is defined as an imitation of the style of a particular writer, artist, or genre with deliberate exaggeration for comic effect.
- Spoof is defined as a humorous imitation of something, typically a film or a particular genre of film, in which its characteristic features are exaggerated for comic effect.
- Irony is defined when the opposite of what you expect to happen occurs. You expect the heavily armed guard to be guarding a shipment of money or gold; instead it is a very inexpensive item: toilet paper. People having been buying up toilet paper and it is now hard to find in many stores.
- Hyperbole is an exaggerated boast, character, situation, or environment. It stretches the truth well beyond reality. The key to good hyperbole is the tone; it has to be clear to the audience that it's an exaggeration for comedic effect.
- Understatement is defined as the presentation of something as being smaller, worse, or less important than it actually is.
- An exaggeration is a statement that represents something as better or worse than it really is.

Question:

Which 2 comic devices does Steve Sack use to highlight an issue relating to the corona virus? Explain your answer. Type your answer in a Word document named Comic-Device-your initials and send to me as an attachment by noon on Friday.

- a) caricature / personification
- b) parody / spoof
- c) irony / hyperbole
- d) understatement / exaggeration



Cartoon by Steve Sack